

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN:ARCK

APPROVED BY EA:WHGLESTEEN,JR

S/S - MR. LUERS

NSC - MR. SMYSER

----- 109365

R 061657Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T STATE 268116

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MILL, TW

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

MENDOLIA

REFERENCE: TAIPEI 7032

1. DEPARTMENT AND NSC CONCURRED IN MENDOLIA VISIT, BUT NEITHER WAS AWARE HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY SEVEN FLAG OFFICERS. WE HAVE RELUCTANTLY CONCLUDED THAT AT THIS LATE STAGE IT WOULD BE BEST TO ALLOW VISIT TO PROCEED AS PLANNED.

2. MENDOLIA IS SEEKING FIRST-HAND IMPRESSION OF US MILITARY PRESENCE IN AREA AS AID TO PLANNING ON FUTURE LOGISTIC SUPPORT BASE REQUIREMENTS. HE IS AWARE OF SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED IN OUR MILITARY PRESENCE ON TAIWAN, BUT YOU SHOULD ASSURE THAT HE IS THOROUGHLY BRIEFED BY EMBASSY PRIOR TO ANY MEETINGS WITH ROC OFFICIALS. SUCH MEETINGS SHOULD BE HELD TO A MINIMUM AND VISIT SHOULD BE PLAYED AS ROUTINE, FACT-FINDING SWING THROUGH AREA. NO PRESS CONFERENCES OR INTERVIEWS SHOULD BE HELD.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMING MENDOLIA THAT IN EVENT DISCUSSIONS TOUCH ON FUTURE OF US MILITARY PRESENCE ON

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TAIWAN, HE SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND INFORMATION ALREADY PRO-

VIDED ROC. HE SHOULD AVOID SUBJECT OF ROC MILITARY IN-

INVOLVEMENT WITH THIRD COUNTRIES IN AREA. (FYI. MEMBER
OF MENDOLIA'S STAFF MENTIONED REGIONAL COOPERATION AS
POSSIBLE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSIONS, BUT AGREED TO DROP IT
WHEN WE REMONSTRATED.) MENDOLIA ALSO SHOULD BE ADVISED
TO AVOID POLITICAL ISSUES, E.G., US-ROC RELATIONS, TREATY
COMMITMENT.

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